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# 農 業 計 算 学 研 究

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## SUMMARIES OF ARTICLES

### Capital Utilization and Agricultural Finance in Farming

—An International Comparison—

Kiyoshi KAMEGAI

In this paper, the problems relating to capital utilization and agricultural finance in rice farming in Japan, U.S.A. and Thailand are examined and compared internationally. The framework of contents and analysis are as below ;

1. Comparison among these three countries in view of the situation of capital utilization in rice farming.
2. The agricultural finance system and its characteristics in each country.
3. The characteristics of demand and supply of the rice farming credit and the financial problems in each country.
4. The problems regarding agricultural credit policy.

### An Investigation of the Problems and Methods for Regional Agricultural Planning

Chikuji FUJITANI

In order to investigate the problems and methods for regional agricultural planning, three following subjects are taken up. Firstly, the need for identifying the roles of regional agricultural planning in the field of farm management as an important area and for improving regional agricultural planning is clarified, in relation with the trend of total outside dependences in the management functions of family farm managements which are the majority in the total farms in Japan. Secondly, based on the investigation of the concept of regional agricultural planning, of the meanings of plan formation, and of the items to be taken up in the planning, the main subjects of regional agricultural planning are identified. Thirdly, the directions for establishing the method for regional agricultural planning are discussed based on the analysis of the methodological requirements for plan formation from the viewpoint of plan's feasibility.

# Utilization of Microcomputers in American Agriculture and Research and Extension Activities at Universities

—Centering around Extension Activities at Texas A & M University—

Shiro INAMOTO

In this paper an investigation of the roles and areas of Extension Activities using micro-computers is done, taking TAEX of Texas A & M University as a case. As indicated in the process of this investigation, the Extension Activities, as a public sector, has emphasized the education of computer users and people who work with computer, development of softwares that are usable only by the public sector, and evaluation of many relevant softwares, keeping cooperative interrelations with the private sector. In this activities, researchers in the Department of Agricultural Economics and the scientists in technology fields at Texas A & M University have performed important roles in theoretical and technological fields.

Currently, an important trend in the development of softwares that help farm management activities Extension Activities is the emphasis on the development of softwares which substitute decision making processes and on the development of expert system softwares which approximate as close as possible the decision making of the high level experts. In order to develop these softwares, it is not only necessary to utilize higher level theory and knowledge in specialized fields, but also to organize interdisciplinary teams of scientists and to ask participation of farmers, banks, accountants, etc. In this trend, the importance of the role of the University researchers will increase more and more.

## Sustainable Agriculture in California : an Overview and Understanding

Hiroshi KUMAGAI

California is one of the most developed agricultural states in the United states of America. However the agriculture of California is far different from other states. Today, California's agriculture has the following distinguishing features ; 1. crops grown are very diversified, 2. many of them are intensive, 3. yields per acre are considerably high, 4. the intensive and high yield crops are grown mainly in small and family farms, which account for more than sixty percent of total nummber of farms in the State. And, such featured California's agriculture is

quite dependent on the followings; 1. replete irrigation systems, 2. large sized agricultural machine and facility systems, 3. massive inputs of petroleum energy and chemicals (fertilizers and agricultural medicines), 4. hiring of foreign cheap labours.

However, California's agriculture has been so in pursuit of such "modern and economic systems" as above mentioned that it is seriously suffered from various problems. Main problems are as follows; 1. increase in the cost of irrigating, 2. accumulation of salt and selenium in the farmland's soil, 3. solidification of soil, 4. soil, water, air and agricultural product pollution with chemicals (fertilizers and agricultural medicines), 5. confusion of ecosystem in and around the area, 6. increase of the real wage for the foreign labours. In addition to the above mentioned problems, another point is the decrease of farmland coming from urbanization.

Today, in California, many people share a concern with new agricultural systems which have good effects upon the environment, food safety, farm-worker safety, farm business, regional economy, and production cost, and will be formed through improvement of the current agricultural system. From the viewpoint of research and extension, this new agricultural systems should be approached broadly, such as from agronomy, soil and water sciences, entomology, animal science, engineering, genetics, food sciences, rural medical science, and agricultural economics.

Such new agricultural systems as above mentioned are called generally "Sustainable agriculture" which was emerged in California.

Objectives of the paper are to take a general view of California's agriculture and to understand "Sustainable agriculture" in detail and systematically.

## The Framework and Analytical Method for Farm Management and Economic Analysis of Farm Household Economy

Hiroshi TSUMI

The conditions in and around Japanese farm household economy have been changing drastically, and the problems relating to the farm household economy have aggravated. In this paper the analytical framework and method for farm management and economic analysis of farm household economy are considered which could contribute for the solution of the problems. A model of subjective

equilibrium for farm household economic behavior is presented and an analytical method based on the model is investigated. This is the marginal approach. The relation between this marginal approach and the traditional average approach of farm management analysis is also considered.

## Citizen's Evaluation and Expectation on Agriculture and Farmland

—The Case of Takatsuki City—

Takashi TAKEBE

The purpose of this article is to investigate on what sort of visions the citizens in Takatsuki city have and how they evaluate and what they expect on agriculture, farmland and agricultural parks, based on the inquiries survey for citizens in Takatsuki city.

As the result of this study, the followings have turned out. i) As for farmland, the citizens think that suitable combinations of housing areas and farmlands are desirable. ii) As for the local farm products in Takatsuki city, housewives are keen to buy vegetables, the middle age and elderly dwellers are interested in flowers. iii) As for citizen's farm for rent unexpectedly, middle age citizens are interested in. iv) As for the agricultural parks, 93% of citizens are supporting.

It can be pointed out that the future development of the agriculture in Takatsuki city is the multipurpose use of farmland which should be considered as the resources to provide not only the traditional food producing function but also the open space function or environment preservation function and the functions to provide leisure and the educational effects for children. It is important that agriculture and farmland should be positively considered as environmental resources.

## Deregulation of Wheat Marketing System and the Production Situation in Australia

Masaru KAGATSUME

In Australia, the wheat marketing system was reformed in July 1, 1989. Under the old system, the wheat marketings both in domestic market and in export market were controlled by Australian wheat board (AWB). Wheat growers had to

sell all of their wheat produced except wheat for seed and for feed to AWB. And domestic wheat prices were set at the levels which were determined by deducting the transportation cost (from the ports to each place) from FOB price. Under the new system, the wheat prices are determined freely by each market and wheat growers can sell their wheat produced to anyone such as wheat processors or feed producers or consumers. What was the most significant change for wheat growers is the abolishment of the guaranteed minimum price system.

Formerly, if the pooled prices, which are weighted average of domestic prices and export prices, decline to the level lower than the 95% of the average of past two year's pooled prices and this year's predicted pooled price, then the gaps are subsidized by the board and so this system had the effects of both supporting farmer's incomes and their stabilization. However, under the new system, for the time being, pooled prices are supported at the levels of 90% of predicted pooled prices but in 5 years, they will be curtailed by 2% every year to the level of 80% and in 5 years, the system itself is to be reviewed.

As for wheat export, following to the request of the wheat growers, it was determined that AWB continued to control all of exported wheat as before, and so the private exporters are not allowed to enter into the export market.

Under the old system, it was forced to use the storing facilities and railways owned by the state governments. Under the new system, these limitations were abolished and the cheapest ways to store and to transport can be adopted.

These are major changes in the new system. In this article, by using an econometric model, the effects of these policy changes on Australian wheat markets are investigated. The major points are as follows.

The farmer's income per ton of wheat sold becomes lower under the new system than under the old system. The ratio of wheat handled by AWB in total wheat produced becomes lower under the new system than before. The export competitiveness of Australian wheat industry becomes higher than before. The fluctuations of wheat prices in the domestic markets become larger than before.

## **An Investigation of Improvements in the System of Self-Accounting Book-Keeping (II)**

Toshio KATSURA

The system of Self-Accounting Book-Keeping was created about fifty years ago. In order to understand the present form of the book-keeping system proper-



ly, it is important to follow through the process of improvements of book-keeping system in the past.

This paper, following the previous paper in the 21st volume of this journal, investigates this process. The contents of this paper are as follows :

- 1) Improvements in the form of property book.
- 2) Improvements in the form of summation property book.
- 3) Improvements in the form of closing account.
- 4) Improvements in the estimation of production cost and the method of analysis.
- 5) Improvements in the form and future problems.

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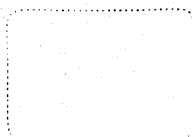
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